Newsletter of the
Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's
Nurses Alumni Association

RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

news & views
SUMMER 2009

FACULTY RESEARCHER WORKING TO STRENGTHEN CHICAGO FAMILIES

WRENETHA JULION, PHD, MPH, RN
Associate Professor, Women's and Children's Health Nursing

For years, researchers have drawn positive correlations between paternal involvement and children's emotional, physical and developmental health. And though two-thirds of all African-American children in the United States reside in homes without their biological fathers, few researchers have offered potential solutions to the problem of absent fathers — until now.

Wrenetha Julion, PhD, MPH, RN (Rush 2002), associate professor of women's and children's health nursing, is designing a new intervention to increase the involvement of African-American fathers, work that could have an important impact on family structures and the way researchers approach the role of fathers.

"While working on my dissertation as a doctoral student at Rush, I found a wealth of information identifying father absence as a problem for children, particularly in African-American families, but nothing that suggested how we can turn it around. My goal ever since has been to positively impact that problem," Julion said.

To do just that, Julion is developing a project called the Chicago Fatherhood Program, in which groups of African-American fathers who do not live with their children will meet regularly with group facilitators. Together, they will watch videotaped scenes of fathers interacting with children and mothers and discuss how those scenes can influence father-child relationships. Julion believes this kind of open dialogue about fathers' roles has the potential to increase fathers' involvement in children's lives by positively impacting fathers' parenting skills, knowledge and self-esteem.

"The majority of African-American fathers I've interviewed want to be involved with their children, but they may lack the skills and self-confidence," she said. "If mothers and fathers have more information about the added benefit fathers bring to their children's lives, then that's an important contribution to make for families."

"Alumni support was so important to my early growth as a researcher. Receiving the Golden Lamp Society Award helped me be able to complete my dissertation work."

Julion, who is a Golden Lamp Society member herself, credits the College of Nursing's giving society for contributing to her growth as a researcher. In 2001, she received the Golden Lamp Society's DNSc Award, which supported her work to develop an instrument to measure fathers' involvement — the Julion Index of Paternal Involvement. Each year, the DNSc Award supports the dissertation research of at least one doctoral nursing student and helps foster his or her growth into an outstanding researcher, educator and clinical nurse leader.

"Alumni support was so important to my early growth as a researcher. Receiving the Golden Lamp Society Award helped me be able to complete my dissertation work," Julion said. "I've seen my work grow from little studies to bigger ones and eventually toward that ultimate goal of being able to develop and implement interventions that will help countless fathers and families."

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MESSAGE FROM DEAN MELANIE DREHER

ADVANCING EVIDENCE-BASED NURSING PRACTICE

The integration of practice, research and education is fundamental to Rush's success. And though each arm of that three-part mission is integral to the clinical focus that drives the college's outstanding national reputation, the creation of new clinical knowledge drives the continued evolution of our field. In this issue of *News & Views,* we highlight the groundbreaking work of some of Rush's faculty researchers, talented nurses like Wrenetha Julion, whose early research was fostered by alumni support.

In fact, the importance of nurturing promising, young nursing researchers is vital to the practice of nursing and to the college's long-term success. With funding from the Golden Lamp Society, the college was able to establish the Center for Clinical Research and Scholarship in 2007. This grant program supports clinical inquiry and promotes best practices in patient care and health care delivery.

The center provides the seed funding to translate the observations of nurses at the point of care into clinical solutions. The clinical improvements generated by the center so far include the introduction of new infection-prevention measures in Rush's surgical intensive care unit, the implementation of new practices to prevent ventilator-associated pneumonia, and the promotion of interdisciplinary, evidence-based risk screening to prevent falls. The center also facilitates collaboration between college-based faculty and students and hospital-based clinicians, a valuable partnership that informs clinical practice across the spectrum of care at Rush and beyond.

It's all part of our vision to be the college of choice for client-centered and evidence-based nursing practice, a renowned laboratory for curriculum innovation and educational transformation and an international center for clinical science and translational research in nursing. Of course, we couldn't do it without our alumni and friends and their continued commitment to the advancement of patient care.

Best wishes,

Melanie J. Dreher

All alumni are welcome to attend as Rush celebrates those who graduated in years ending in four or nine. Daytime activities and the celebratory banquet will be held on the Rush University Medical Center campus.

Event invitations will be mailed this summer. Hotel accommodations have been arranged at the Chicago Marriott at Medical District/UIC (just across the street from Rush's campus at Ashland and Harrison). You can visit their Web site at www.marriott.com/property/propertypage/CHIDM. To reserve a room, call (800) 356-3641 and mention Nursing Alumni Homecoming 2009. A special nightly rate of $179 is available if you make your reservation before Aug. 31, 2009.

For more information about Homecoming, visit www.con.rushalumni.org/homecoming or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (312) 942-2569 or by e-mail at alumni@rush.edu.

FACULTY PROFILE

MARK FOREMAN, PHD, RN, FAAN
CHAIRPERSON OF ADULT HEALTH AND GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING

In December 2008, Rush University College of Nursing welcomed Mark Foreman, PhD, RN, FAAN, as chairperson of the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing. Foreman joins Rush from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he served most recently as director of doctoral education in the College of Nursing.

Foreman brings to Rush an extensive and nationally acknowledged body of research focused on the widespread problem of delirium in elder hospitalized patients. He recently completed a five-year study examining the long-term outcomes of delirium. Foreman was drawn to Rush not only for the college's emphasis on research and scholarship, but for the way Rush's faculty integrate these elements with education and practice.

"Everyone at Rush is focused on providing the best nursing education possible," he said. "What's more, faculty here aren't just teachers. They're teachers and practitioners or teachers and researchers, which makes for well-rounded nursing education and a robust college."

Foreman says his plans for the future of the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing include capitalizing on the recent rise in applications to the acute care nurse practitioner and adult nurse practitioner programs and in encouraging the expansion of online course content. He also hopes to maintain the high quality of the department's nurse anesthetist program, ranked third nationally, and to build on the successes of his predecessors and other faculty and alumni.

"We value the accomplishments of the department's faculty and previous chairs like Joan LeSage, PhD, RN, and Margaret Faut-Callahan, CRNA, PhD, FAAN (Pres.-St. Luke's 1976 and Rush 1979 and 1984), as well as the many contributions made by alumni. The Nurses Alumni Association Chair in Health and the Aging Process, in particular, continues to be a valued resource for the department," he said. "Now we look forward to building on these accomplishments while working with the dean and the University to strengthen Rush's gerontological nursing initiatives."

"Faculty here aren't just teachers. They're teachers and practitioners or teachers and researchers, which makes for well-rounded nursing education and a robust college."

SAVE THE DATE
SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

RUSH-PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S NURSES HOMECOMING

CONTINUED NURSING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED FOR ALUMNI

Rush University College of Nursing is offering several upcoming Continued Nursing Education (CNE) opportunities for alumni.

ORIENTATION TO CLINICAL TEACHING IN NURSING

This six-week online course introduces participants to clinical teaching of prelicensure nursing students. Participants earn 18 CNE credits upon completion. Students have the flexibility to self-pace their coursework during the six one-week modules presented in an online format.

ADVANCED STATISTICS FOR THE GIFTED AMATEUR (ASGA)

This program of six one-day (six-hour) workshops is designed to train practicing clinicians and scientists in advanced statistical modeling, focusing on how to use and interpret statistical software. Workshops can be taken in sequence to complete the entire ASGA curriculum, or they can be taken individually to meet specific needs.

Upcoming workshops include the following:

- Structural Equation Modeling Using AMOS
- Statistical Analysis Using Excel
- Database Management Using SPSS
- The General Linear Model Using SPSS
- Longitudinal Data Analysis Using SPSS
- Random Regression Models Using Statistical Freeware

For dates, prices, registration information and the latest details on upcoming CNE opportunities, visit the CNE page on the nursing alumni Web site at www.con.rushalumni.org/cne.

RUSH RANKS HIGHLY IN LATEST *U.S.NEWS* GRADUATE SCHOOLS SURVEY

Rush University is well represented in the 2010 edition of the "America's Best Graduate Schools" survey published in the May issue of *U.S.News & World Report* magazine. Eight programs in Rush University College of Nursing and three programs in the College of Health Sciences are ranked among the top 25 in the country.

Rush University College of Nursing is ranked No. 19 among the 390 nursing colleges with graduate programs and is ranked in the top 10 in the nation in seven nursing specialties:

- **Nurse Anesthesia – No. 3**
- **Community/Public Health – No. 5**
- **Psychiatric/Mental Health – No. 6**
- **Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – No. 7**
- **Adult Nurse Practitioner – No. 9**
- **Gerontological Nurse Practitioner – No. 9**
- **Family Nurse Practitioner – No. 10**

COLLEGE NEWS

RESEARCH ::

In the Department of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing, principal investigator **DIANE MCNAUGHTON, PhD, RN,** associate professor, and co-investigators **JULIA MUENNICH COWELL, PhD, RNC, FAAN,** professor and chair emeritus, and **LOUIS FOGG, PhD,** assistant professor, have received $423,000 in research funding from the National Institute of Nursing Research and National Institutes of Health for their study "Reducing Risk for Children of Mexican Immigrant Mothers: Adapting a Mother-Child Communication Program." The purpose of this two-year study is to adapt a successful parent-child communication program for Mexican immigrant mothers and their fourth- through sixth-grade children.

Principal investigator **OLIMPIA PAUN, PhD, MS, RN,** associate professor in the Department of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing, and co-investigators **CAROL J. FARRAN, DNSc, RN, FAAN (RUSH 1985),** professor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing, and **LOUIS FOGG, PhD,** have received a $407,000 grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research for their study "A Chronic Grief Intervention for Alzheimer's Caregivers." This two-year study will test a group-based chronic grief management intervention to improve family caregiver grief and depression after a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is placed in a nursing home.

STUDENT NEWS ::

Rush University College of Nursing's final class of BSN students graduated this June. After more than 35 years of undergraduate education since the founding of Rush University, the College of Nursing has transitioned entirely to graduate-level nursing education in an effort to prepare nurses for the advanced patient care they will practice in tomorrow's health care settings. At the June 12 College of Nursing Convocation, 56 students received pins sponsored by the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association and received their bachelor's degrees at the following day's Rush University Commencement Ceremony.

IN MEMORIAM

ST. LUKE'S ::

WANDA STAGEN TIEMANN, 1937, of Mesa, Ariz.; Dec. 18, 2008

NADINE COLLINGWOOD DOERR, 1944, of Oroville, Calif.; Jan. 30, 2009

MONA L. MOUGHTON, 1944, of Carlsbad, Calif.; Sept. 28, 2008

AMELIA MALICHEK ALDRICH, 1947, of Carol Stream, Ill.; March 2009

GLORIA MASSE REED, 1948, of Park Forest, Ill.; Dec. 19, 2008

JEANNE A. WATSON HAWRY, 1949, of Evanston, Ill.; Jan. 10, 2009

RUTH B. TEMPLIN, 1949, of Oak Park, Ill.; March 2009

LUCIA PISTILLI TYNER, 1951, of Dekalb, Ill.; Jan. 2, 2008

DOLORES BURKE WRIGHT, 1952, of Carleton Place, Ontario; Nov. 24, 2008

MELBA A. FINK CASSEL, 1953, of San Diego, Calif.; Jan. 29, 2009

DIANE JOAN PHILLIPS FIRCHAU, 1953, of Glen Ellyn, Ill.; April 10, 2009

MARY CAROLYN RYAN SKVARA, 1957, of Green Bay, Wis.; Aug. 27, 2008

PRESBYTERIAN ::

OLIVIA P. KRAUSE, 1934, of Cincinnati; Nov. 24, 2008

JEAN BRANDT KEMMERER, 1935, of Fond du Lac, Wis.; May 3, 2008

MARY ELIZABETH PIERCE JOHNSON, 1938, of Woodstock, Ill.; April 10, 2009

OLIVE EDMOND BABCOCK, 1945, of Loveland, Ohio; April 6, 2009

JUNE WATENPAUGH ALLBRANDT, 1946, of Kapaa, Hawaii; Jan. 17, 2009

MAESEL WESTRA STERK, 1946, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; July 3, 2008

NORMA OLSON FIDLER, 1947, of Largo, Fla.; Sept. 19, 2008

SHARON TIETZ KNUDSON, 1947, of Wausau, Wis.; Nov. 29, 2008

LOUISE M. BENES NOBLE, 1947, of La Grange Park, Ill.; March 19, 2009

ELIZABETH CRAIG KING, 1948, of Sandy, Ore.; Aug. 8, 2007

RUTH LOUISE NICKEL SKULINA, 1956, of Lynchburg, Va.; Nov. 16, 2008

NORMA DWINELL CHAMNESS, 1957, of Davenport, Fla.; Nov. 7, 2008

DONNA ECKLES UKENA, 1957, of Manson, Iowa; Dec. 3, 2008

BETTY STOKER AIKMAN, 1959, of Mattoon, Ill.; Jan. 13, 2009

SHIRLEY LASZEWSKI MICHALSKI, 1959, of Peru, Ill.; May 5, 2009

PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S ::

LINDA GAIL AVERY, 1962, of Mendota, Ill.; Jan. 3, 2009

RHODA GRUPE BROWN, PRESBYTERIAN 1945, of Winnetka, Ill., died April 1, 2009, at the age of 84. In her early nursing career, Brown joined the war effort and then traveled to Texas to staff a polio clinic. She married R. Gordon Brown, MD, a 1939 Rush Medical College alumnus, respected member of Rush's medical staff and a life trustee of Rush, and raised two sons and two daughters. She was an active volunteer in her church and community as well as a philanthropist; in addition to her support of missionary work in Africa and underserved children in local communities, Brown established the Rhoda Grupe Brown Endowed Scholarship Fund in the College of Nursing in 2000. Her generous support continues to serve as an important source of financial assistance for Rush nursing students. Brown was preceded in death by her husband and is survived by her four children, two brothers, one sister and several grandchildren.

JOSEPH P. ZBILUT, RUSH MS 1984, DNSc 1987, professor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing at Rush University College of Nursing and professor in the Department of Molecular Biophysics and Physiology at Rush Medical College, died Jan. 10, 2009. He was 60. Prior to joining Rush's faculty in 1987, Zbilut began his career as a monk before leaving the monastery to earn his first doctorate from Northwestern University and then teach English at the University of Southern California. In his nursing career, Zbilut crossed disciplinary boundaries, working closely with colleagues in physiology, biophysics and medicine to further the understanding of the body's biological signals and was internationally recognized for his work on nonlinear dynamics. His most recent work involved computational analyses of protein structures and was funded by the National Science Foundation. Zbilut is survived by his wife, Barbara; their son, daughter and son-in-law; and a brother. A scholarship fund has been established in his honor. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (312) 942-2569.

CLASS NOTES

ST. LUKE'S ::

DOROTHY ROBINSON WERNECKE, 1944, of Southfield, Mich., retired from the rehabilitation unit of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac, Mich., in 1993. She is involved with a conversational English group at her church that includes women from Japan, Korea and France.

PRESBYTERIAN ::

MARJORIE ("MARGE") BRENNER HAZELBAKER, 1935, lives in a retirement home in Palm Bay, Fla.

FLORENCE JOHNSON MOORE, 1935, lives in a retirement community in Grand Rapids, Mich. Moore writes, "As far as I know, **MARGE [BRENNER HAZELBAKER]** and I are the last surviving members of our class. All 15 of us kept in touch through the years." Their classmate **JEAN BRANDT KEMMERER** passed away last year. (See "In Memoriam" section.)

JOANNE SCHULTZ OLSON, 1955, of Duluth, Minn., works in the family business, Stewart-Taylor Printing, with all four of her children: Tom, Jim, Bill and Barb. She continues to upgrade her nursing license, concentrating on her practice of massage therapy.

PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S ::

SANDRA WRIGHT SCHAEFER (FORMERLY BERGE AND MCDONALD), 1964, is retired from psychiatric nursing, but has continued to work per diem in the Geriatric Psychiatric Unit at Stoughton Hospital in Stoughton, Wis. She is remarried to Robert Schaefer, a former high school classmate, and she wrote that the two were preparing to move from Madison Wis., to Hot Springs Village, Ark. Schaefer writes, "I would love any information about Janie Peters, Class of 1963. She was my little sister at Pres-St. Luke's."

RUSH ::

MARGARET ("PEGGY") S. HICKS GERARD, BSN 1976, DNSc 1993, of Plainfield, Ill., received the Brenda Lyon Leadership Award at the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists national conference in March. The award honors an individual who has attained national recognition as a clinical nurse specialist leader, has helped improve health care delivery and has helped mentor others to become successful leaders. Gerard is dean of Purdue University Calumet School of Nursing.

JANE A. HAWKSLEY, BSN 1980, was appointed unit director of 10 and 11 Kellogg in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at Rush University Medical Center last fall. After her graduation from Rush, she received her master's degree from Saint Xavier University and worked at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in a variety of roles, including advanced practice nurse consultant-liaison for psychiatry and as a manager for the Inpatient Bone Marrow Transplant Unit. Most recently, Hawksley was the clinical practice manager for the Blood and Marrow Transplant Program at Stanford Hospital and Clinics in Stanford, Calif.

JEFF CURL, BSN 1993, began a new job as a radiology nurse at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston in February 2009. He writes that he'd love to hear from fellow classmates.

PATRICIA KANE MUSTO, ND 2000, of Burr Ridge, Ill., is a medical science liaison for Genentech, which manufactures targeted recombinant human therapies. She interfaces with clinicians and researchers throughout the Midwest who use or study Genentech's respiratory products. For the last two years, Musto has managed seven other field-based professionals (MDs, PharmDs and PhDs) and was recognized for significant contributions to the team in 2006 and for manager excellence in 2007.

JUDITH L. SHRUBSOLE, DNSc 2003, of Cedarville, Ohio, is an associate professor of nursing at Cedarville University. This spring, she was honored with the Cedarville University Dr. Allen Monroe Integration of Faith and Learning Award. This award recognizes sustained excellence in scholarship and classroom teaching of the integration of scripture and Christian worldview with the intellectual content for a discipline. Shrubsole has been a faculty member at Cedarville University since 1992.

SEND US YOUR NEWS ::

If you'd like to be put in touch with a former classmate or any of the alumni featured in this issue, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (312) 942-2569. And remember, you can sumbit your professional news and personal updates online anytime at alumni@rush.edu.

KATHY HEISE JOINS RUSH'S OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

As of May 2009, Kathy Heise has joined the Office of Alumni Relations as director of development and alumni relations.

Heise comes to Rush from Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School in Chicago, where she had served as vice president for development since October 2005. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in English from Northern Illinois University and a Master of Business Administration degree in marketing and nonprofit management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to her work at Mother McAuley, Heise worked at Little Company of Mary Hospital, Benedictine University, Wright State University and the University of Illinois.

"Clearly, the College of Nursing is, and has been, a leader in nursing education, and the alumni are essential to maintaining this leadership. Their perspectives and insights are invaluable, and I hope to be a conduit for their ideas and interests," Heise said. "I feel very lucky to have the chance to work with a group like this."

Heise lives in Chicago Ridge, Ill., with her husband, Bill, a professor of medieval literature and philosophy, and their two sons.

SUPPORT NURSING STUDENTS WHILE PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE

In recognition of Florence Nightingale's professional and charitable legacy, the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association has established the Nightingale Charitable Gift Annuity. The gift annuity supports the training of the next generation of Rush nurses and carries on the tradition of caring and philanthropy that Florence Nightingale began.

The Nightingale Charitable Gift Annuity can help you meet your financial goals with the following benefits:

- Providing income for life
- Supplementing retirement income
- Reducing or eliminating capital gains taxes
- Generating a charitable income tax deduction
- Reducing or eliminating gift and estate taxes
- Allowing you to make a significant impact on the future of nursing by supporting students and faculty at Rush

For more information, please contact Kathy Heise, director of development and alumni relations, at (312) 942-7199 or Kathryn_Risor-Heise@rush.edu.

news & views

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RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

news & views

SUMMER 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS—SAVE THE DATE

HOMECOMING
September 25, 2009
Searle Conference Center
Rush University Medical Center

RUSH UNIVERSITY GOLF OUTING
September 30, 2009
Silver Lake Country Club
Orland Park, Ill.

For more details on these events, please visit our Web site www.con.rushalumni.org/events or call (312) 942-2569.

RUSH-PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S NURSES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2008 – 2010 BOARD ROSTER

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